

CLAIMS:

1. A gas feed device for feeding gas from a plurality of gas tanks through feed passages communicated with branch passages which are respectively connected to the plurality of gas tanks, comprising:

5 stop valves mounted on the respective branch passages; gas pressure detection means which are fitted to the respective branch passages on the side away from the stop valves and nearer the gas tanks; and

trouble judgement means which judge a trouble of the gas pressure

10 detecting means on the basis of the opening and closing actions of at least two stop valves among the respective stop valves and the gas pressure detected by the gas pressure detecting means fitted together with the stop valves.

2. The gas feed device according to claim 1, wherein, in connection with values detected when a plurality of stop valves related to the opening and closing operations are opened, the trouble judgement means make a positive judgement concerning the presence of trouble when the gas detecting means detect a gas pressure falling below, within a predetermined range, a predetermined value which is determined according to the detected gas pressure among the gas pressure values detected by the gas pressure detecting means.

3. The gas feed device according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the plurality of gas tanks are tanks which incorporate a hydrogen absorbing alloy and store hydrogen.

4. The gas feed device according to claim 3, wherein the gas feed device is a vehicular mounted gas feed device for feeding hydrogen from the plurality of gas tanks to hydrogen consuming equipment

mounted on a vehicle.

5. The gas feed device according to claim 4, wherein:

stop valve control means are provided to fully close the stop valves of the plurality of gas tanks when the vehicle operation is stopped and to fully open the stop valves of the plurality of gas tanks when the vehicle is activated, and

the trouble judgement means make a positive judgement concerning the presence of trouble when it is detected that the stop valves are fully opened when the vehicle is started.

6. The gas feed device according to any of claims 1 to 5, further comprising:

trouble output means for outputting a trouble notification when the trouble judgement means make a positive judgement concerning the presence of trouble.